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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, on May 24, 2000 in a postage prepaid envelope addressed to: Box Amendment, Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Peter J. Manso, Reg. No. 32,264

Date

P. J. Manso

May 24, 2000

In re Application of:

Eugenio A. Cefali

Serial No.:

08/960,557

Filing Date:

October 31, 1997

Group Art Unit:

1615

Examiners:

J. Spear

Title:

**METHODS OF TREATING HYPERLIPIDEMIA WITH
INTERMEDIATE RELEASE NICOTINIC ACID
COMPOSITIONS HAVING UNIQUE
BIOPHARMACEUTICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Box Amendment

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed on November 24, 1999 in connection with the above-identified application for U.S. patent. Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Kindly amend claims 1 and 16 as follows:

(1)(AMENDED) A method of treating a lipidemic disorder with a intermediate release nicotinic acid formulation suitable for oral administration once-a-day as a single dose without

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